

# Forces

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## Illuminating

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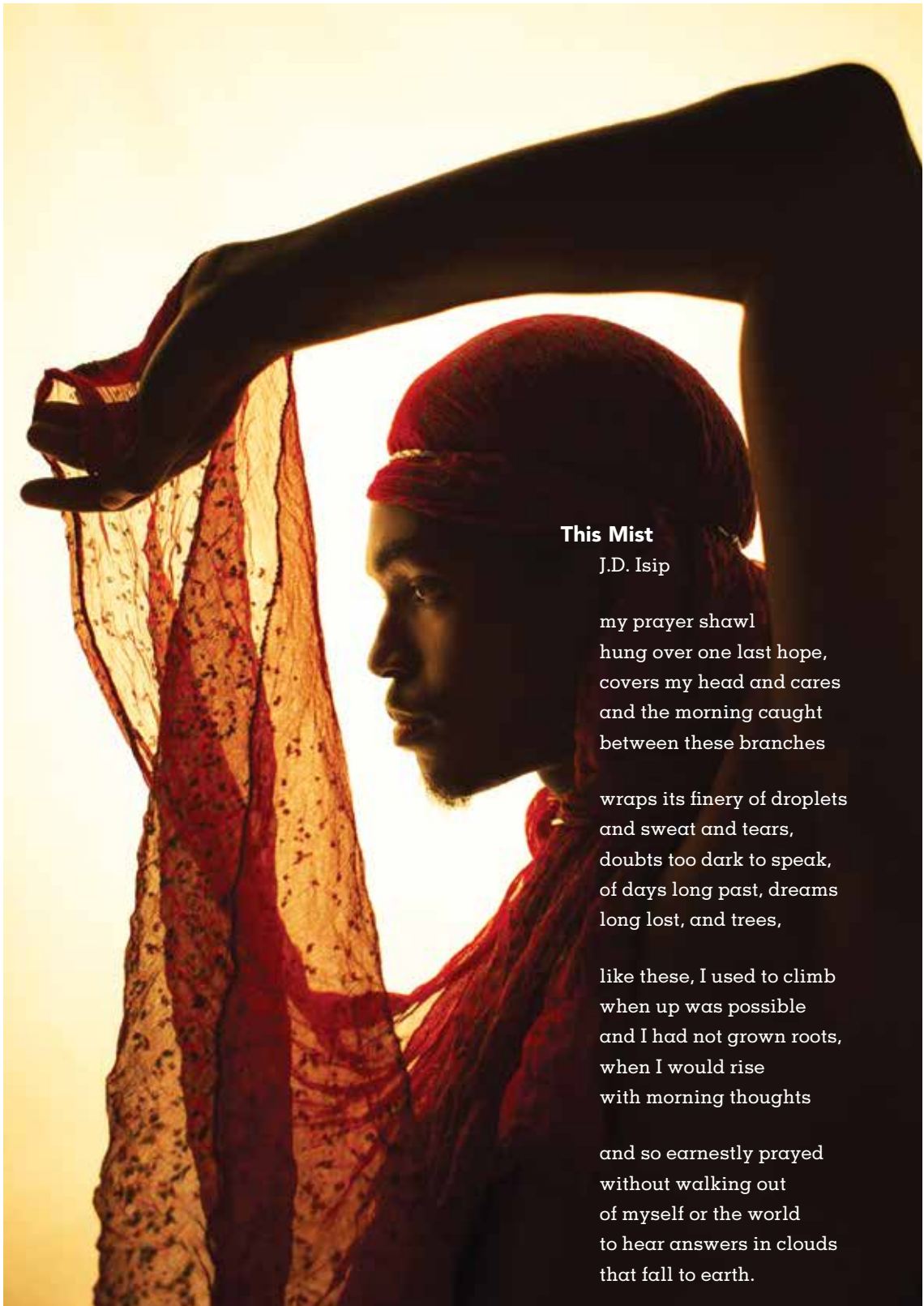
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### This Mist

J.D. Isip

my prayer shawl  
hung over one last hope,  
covers my head and cares  
and the morning caught  
between these branches

wraps its finery of droplets  
and sweat and tears,  
doubts too dark to speak,  
of days long past, dreams  
long lost, and trees,

like these, I used to climb  
when up was possible  
and I had not grown roots,  
when I would rise  
with morning thoughts

and so earnestly prayed  
without walking out  
of myself or the world  
to hear answers in clouds  
that fall to earth.